

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 640

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Blackman High School cheerleading team on winning the 2018 UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to our exemplary sports teams and student athletes who have attained the pinnacle of competition, bringing great honor and acclaim to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Blackman High School cheerleading team is one such resolute group of young athletes, having won the 2018 Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) National High School Cheerleading Championship on February 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the team traveled to Orlando, Florida, and competed in the small co-ed division against forty teams from around the country; and

WHEREAS, so exemplary was the team's performance during the preliminary round that they not only placed first but were also automatically granted a spot in the finals; and

WHEREAS, despite one of their players having to bow out of the competition, the cheerleaders from Blackman High School rallied together and practiced through the night to adapt their routine to their new circumstances; and

WHEREAS, that spirited teamwork coupled with sheer perseverance not only propelled the Blackman High School cheerleading team to the national title, but drove them to a score of 94.31, a new school record; and

WHEREAS, this victory is the sixth title for the varsity squad that previously won national titles in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Blackman High School cheerleading team had previously won the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) State Championship in November 2017, which earned them their bid to the UCA National Championship; and

WHEREAS, the members of this championship team are Mary Jan Blake, Maddee Grace Candlish, Lexy Cantrell, Savvy Carvalho, Kaylee Culver, Brianna Dando, Ethan Dolan, Kaeli Dorsey, Caleb Funke, Mason Griffith, Adyson Helton, Hanna Hicks, Kristina Hughes, Connor Jordan, Shiho Kasama, Garrett Kaumeyer, Summer Lester, Justin Miller, Kaity Mistretta, Trinity Nevette, Sofia Perdomo, Skylar Pitman, Layla Rachidi, Kamryn Skaggs, Hope Sledge, and Caroline Thomason; and

WHEREAS, this exemplary team undoubtedly benefited from the vast knowledge and steadfast leadership of its coaches, Courtney Gregory and Heather Wortman, and its booster club president, Shannon Sledge; and

WHEREAS, the young women and men of the Blackman High School cheerleading team have displayed ability, teamwork, and perseverance, and with the help of their coaches, parents, teachers, school administrators, supporters, and many fans, they have represented their school and the State of Tennessee in fine fashion, displaying peerless character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible competition, the members of the Blackman High School cheerleading team etched their names into the annals of Tennessee sports history; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable championship season but also surely point toward their success in future endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the Blackman High School cheerleading team on winning the 2018 UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship, applaud the

team's incredible athletic prowess, and extend to each team member our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.